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January 29, 2004

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Ms. Dortch:

I respectfully request that the enclosed letter from Bryan E. Beatty, Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Crime Control and Public Safety, to Chairman Michael K. Powell be added to the record of the Field Hearing on Broadcast Localism held in Charlotte, North Carolina on October 22, 2003. Please consider this letter a supplement to our previous submission of documents on November 3, 2003.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this matter. If you have any questions or need any additional information, please do not hesitate to call me at (919) 839-0300.

Sincerely,


Charles F. Marshall III  
Counsel to the  
North Carolina Association of Broadcasters

Enclosure

cc: Ardie Gregory

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## North Carolina Department of Crime Control and Public Safety

Michael F. Easley, Governor

Bryan E. Beatty, Secretary

October 22, 2003

Mr. Michael K. Powell, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S. W.  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Powell:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the working relationship that exists between the North Carolina Department of Crime Control and Public Safety and the North Carolina Association of Broadcasters with regard to our state's Amber Alert System. On June 12, 2003, Governor Michael F. Easley signed into law North Carolina's AMBER Alert System. The behind-the-scenes work leading up to this event extended over a period of some months.

The NC AMBER Alert System receives guidance from representatives of allied organizations whose expertise and technical support combine to promote the plan. The North Carolina Association of Broadcasters (NCAB) is an integral part of this system and was instrumental in recommending a vehicle; namely the Emergency Alert System (EAS), by which AMBER Alerts are dispatched via the state's broadcast outlets.

In particular, Ms. Ardie Gregory, President-elect of the NCAB and General Manager of WRAL-FM has been a stalwart supporter of our AMBER Alert efforts. Her counsel, advice and assistance have been indispensable in getting this important program operational.

Her dedicated efforts took her to Dallas, Texas in early August to attend the U. S. Department of Justice National AMBER Alert Conference, along with our AMBER Alert Coordinator, Mr. Perry Stewart. When our Center for Missing Persons activated the first AMBER Alert in North Carolina on August 27<sup>th</sup>, Ms Gregory remained in constant communication with our department to ensure a successful first-time use of the system.

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[www.NCCrimeControl.org](http://www.NCCrimeControl.org)

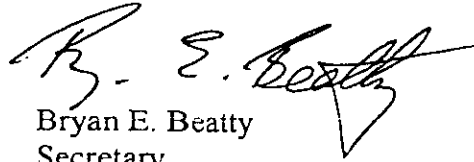
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Mr. Michael K. Powell  
October 21, 2003  
Page Two

I am pleased with the relationship the Department of Crime Control and Public Safety has with the North Carolina Association of Broadcasters and commend them for their efforts on behalf of the children of North Carolina, who are protected by this system.

Sincerely,



Bryan E. Beatty  
Secretary

BEB:ps



# Thomas L. Hennies

S.D. House of Representatives District #32

820 St. Francis St., Rapid City, SD 57701

Phone (605)-348-0372

May 26, 2004

Mr. Michael Powell, Chairman  
FCC Task Force

Dear Chairman Powell,

I thank you and the other members of this Localism Task Force for choosing Rapid City as one of the sites where you hold hearings regarding electronic media.

I wish to make only two points. First, I believe it is imperative that media outlets remain independent and locally owned, as much as possible. Although it would be far better for the public to get the bulk of their current information from printed media, the fact is that the only news information most people get is from electronic media. If our media is swallowed up by conglomerates, the breadth of that news information can only become more narrow and therefore has the potential to become more one-sided.

As evidence that locally controlled airways would be better for the citizens I submit the example of the continued involvement of our local electronic media.

I have been in public service for nearly 40 years. 35 years as a police officer and 6 years as a member of the South Dakota House of Representatives. During that time I have seen the local electronic media become involved in all manner of public service. They keep us informed of local and national news. They join in assisting those hurt by personal disaster. One can count on accurate information during emergencies and they give a great amount of air time to organizations dealing with the poor, the homeless and needy.

Although while I was Police Chief, there were stories which I would have preferred were not made public, the reporting has always been accurate and balanced so I really could not complain. This is far different than my impression of the national news media, which seems to have its own agenda.

I would ask that you do not allow any greater expansion of ownership by large organizations but rather, assist the small, locally owned media to continue their community involvement.

Sincerely,

Thomas L. Hennies  
State Representative